

Depressaria sordidatella TENGSTROM is the valid name for Depressaria weirella STANTON

(Lepidoptera, Oecophoridae)

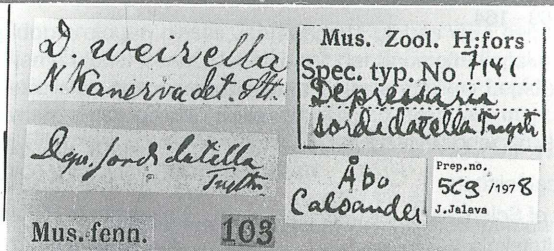
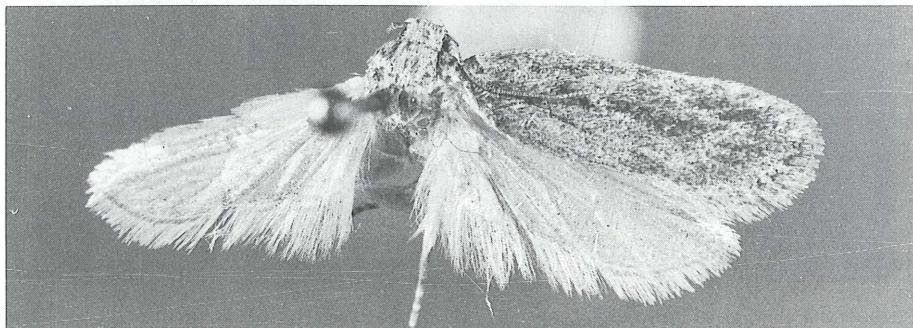
by

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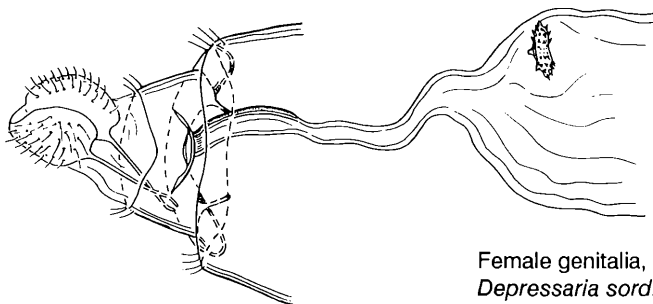
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Abstract: A senior synonym of the well-known moth *Depressaria weirella* STT. is discovered. The type is kept in the Zoological Museum of the University of Helsinki.

The works of JOHAN MARTIN JAKOB TENGSTROM (1821–1890), the finnish physician, mark noticeable steps in entomology. His extensive collection of butterflies and moths is kept at the Zoological Museum of the University of Helsinki. One old specimen of *Depressaria* moth was found in box N 15. To it 7 labels are attached, indicating that it is the type specimen of *Depressaria sordidatella* TENGSTROM (fig. 1):



This species was described (TENGSTROM, 1848) one year ahead of *D. weirella* STANTON, 1849. The specimen was examined many years ago by the finnish entomologist KANERVA, who determinated it as *Depressaria weirella* STT. Examination of the genitalia of this moth confirmed KANERVA's result. Unfortunately the specimen is a female, which has not very good differences to *Depressaria pulcherrimella* STT. and *D. douglasella* STT. But the forewing of *D. sordidatella* TNGSTR. is brown, without small black strokes, which are typical for *D. pulcherrimella* and *D. douglasella*. The apophyses posteriores in the female genitalia of *D. sordidatella* are shorter than those of *D. pulcherrimella* and *D. douglasella* (fig. 2). Finally, *D. douglasella* is absent from Finland, *D. pulcherrimella* is scarce, but *D. weirella* is very common.



Female genitalia, holotype ♀,
Depressaria sordidatella
TENGSTROM, 1848

The right forewing of the type has a length of 8 mm, a brown colour with vague dark strokes in the external field and one dark stroke in the middle of the cell. The left forewing is absent. The hindwings are of a light, slightly greyish colour. Head and thorax are of the same colour. The specimen bears the following 7 labels: 1) "*Depr. sordidatella* TNGSTR."; 2) Mus. Zool. H:fors, Spec. typ. N 7141, *Depressaria sordidatella* TNGSTR."; 3) Mus. fenn.; 4) 103; 5) Åbo, Caloander; 6) *D. weirella* STT., N. KANERVA det.; 7) Prep. no. 569/1978, J. JALAVA.

References

TENGSTROM, J. M. J. (1848): Bidrag till Finlands fjärl-fauna. – Notiser pro Fauna et Flora Fennicae 1:69–164.

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